



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cabrillo National
Monument

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CABRILLO News Release

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National Park Service Paints Old Point Loma Lighthouse at Cabrillo National Monument

[San Diego, California] Visitors to the Old Point Loma Lighthouse at Cabrillo National Monument, *San Diego's National Park*, will notice scaffolding obstructing their view of the building. Park officials announced that for the next three weeks the lighthouse, as well as the Assistance Keeper's Quarters, will be repainted, resulting in limited access for visitors.

153-year old beacon is being painted as part of the National Park Service's cyclic maintenance program. Scaffolding was erected around the lighthouse on Tuesday, October 13, 2009.

However, the lighthouse will remain open to visitors except for brief periods when necessary to ensure their safety. In January 2006 the lighthouse was surrounded by scaffolding for restoration of the dome roof on top of the lantern section, and was last painted in 2001.

Jim Duggan Construction Company out of Seattle, Washington is performing the painting project that is expected to take three weeks to complete. Work will take place Monday through Friday, during regular park hours. During the project the lighthouse and *The Lighthouses of Point Loma* exhibit in the Assistant Keeper's Quarters next door, will remain open to the public during normal park operating hours (9:00 AM to 5:00 PM), although it "may be closed for short periods of time for the safety of visitors," said Workman. He further stated, "Once the project is complete and the scaffolding is removed, San Diegans will once again enjoy the lighthouse at the end of Point Loma much like it was at the end of the 19th century."

Said Workman, “The Old Point Loma Lighthouse was part of a network of lighthouses built by the United States government during the 19th century and played a very important role in the early development of maritime commerce along the West Coast. The American people have entrusted it to the care of the National Park Service and it is important that we maintain it in the best possible condition. As we prepare for the Centennials of Cabrillo National Monument in 1913 and the National Park Service in 1916, this and other projects are helping spruce up the park and ensure that such important treasures as the natural and cultural resources entrusted to our care are preserved and available for visitors to Cabrillo National Monument to enjoy for years into the future.”

Cabrillo National Monument, located on Point Loma at the south end of Catalina Boulevard, is open daily from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM. Public transportation (#84 bus) is available, Monday through Friday, to the visitor center from Shelter Island, with a transfer to the #26 bus to the Old Town Transit Center. The Cabrillo Store, operated by our non-profit cooperating association partner, the Cabrillo National Monument Foundation, is open daily from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM in the park visitor center. The Cabrillo National Monument Foundation has supported Educational and Scientific Research activities at Cabrillo National Monument for more than 50 years. For additional information call 619-557-5450 or visit our website at <http://www.nps.gov/cabr/>. For information about the Cabrillo National Monument Foundation or to join, please call 619-222-4747 or visit their website at <http://www.cnmf.org>.

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